

can predict with certainty when the hour of maximum danger will come, but it is entirely possible—if present trends are permitted to continue much longer—that the candidate we elect as President next month will be the man who will eventually be confronted with a choice between defending Taiwan and its democracy or appeasing Beijing and thereby sacrificing U.S. strategic interests in Asia for generations to come.

So during this year's observance of "Double 10," let us celebrate what has been achieved in Taiwan—the victory of democracy and the blessings of a free society. Let us also be resolved to do whatever is necessary to protect Taiwan and to preserve its way of life. In standing by Taiwan, we are also standing up for ourselves.

HONORING DR. MURRAY PRITCHARD OF WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate a very special man, Dr. Murray Pritchard of West Plains, Missouri. Dr. Pritchard was recently named Outstanding VA Health Care Provider of the Year at the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Convention held in Las Vegas, Nevada. I am very pleased to honor the distinguished career of Dr. Pritchard and all the contributions he has made to veterans in Southeast Missouri.

Dr. Pritchard served this country in the Army during World War II. He was captured in North Africa in February 1943, and spent two years in a prisoner of war camp in Germany. When Dr. Pritchard returned from the war, he went to medical school and became a doctor of osteopathy while also completing a masters degree in public health administration. After several years in private practice, our community was lucky to have him join the staff of the John J. Pershing VA Medical Center in Poplar Bluff in 1973. Dr. Pritchard worked in the outpatient department until he retired in 1985.

But retirement didn't last very long. Soon Dr. Pritchard helped lead the innovative process of starting the VA Mobile Clinic program. Many veterans in rural America live 100 miles or more from the closest VA medical center. Traveling to see a doctor, to get a check up, or even to get necessary prescription drugs is a hardship to these men and women. But Dr. Pritchard and the folks at the Poplar Bluff VA wouldn't let distance stop them from giving top-notch care to veterans. If the vets couldn't go to the clinic, Dr. Pritchard made sure the hospital would come to them. On the road about 4 days a week, Dr. Pritchard and his wife make sure that no veteran is left without the necessary, quality health care they deserve and were promised.

Dr. Pritchard not only serves the veterans of Southeast Missouri, but he also is concerned with the well being and health of all Americans. When Hurricane Andrew hit southern Florida, Dr. Pritchard headed up a team of health care professionals who took their mobile clinic to help treat the victims of the hurri-

cane. His team helped ease the suffering of about 150 hurricane victims a day in Florida. And if that isn't enough, Dr. Pritchard has many other notable accomplishments such as: holding the post of past commander of the Missouri Association of Former POW's, serving as president of the Missouri Society of American College of General Practitioners in Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, and as past president of the Association of Military Osteopathic Surgeons.

Dr. Pritchard is a dedicated doctor, and a kind and generous human being who answers the call of service to his fellow man.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Murray Pritchard is more than worthy of receiving the honor of Outstanding VA Health Care Provider, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in recognizing this truly remarkable man.

HONORING ORLYN BELL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor a remarkable human being, Orlyn Bell. For over three decades Orlyn has fought hard to ensure that the water of western Colorado is being distributed correctly and fairly. Orlyn is retiring as the Division 5 water engineer, a position he has held in Glenwood Springs for just over 17 years. As Orlyn moves on to bigger and better things, I would like to take this opportunity to commend him on his service to the western slope of Colorado.

Orlyn began his career in engineering as far back as 1965 where his summer job had him measuring the flow of a major flood of the South Platte River after it hit Denver. His work during this traumatic time earned him not only a citation from the Governor, but also sparked an interest that would soon become the focus of his professional career. In 1968 he graduated from the University of Denver, with a degree in civil engineering. After spending a few years working for the Washington Highway Department he moved back to Colorado where he began his legendary career in the state engineer's office.

For almost two decades now, Orlyn has been one of seven engineers in charge of the seven different major river basins. The area in which he has represented is vast in size and the demand for water is much larger than the actual supply. This large area spans from the Continental Divide in central Colorado all the way through the Grand Valley on to the Utah border.

The battle for water in Colorado is one that has sparked a great deal of controversy over the years, but Orlyn was able to manage these issues fairly and earn the respect of both eastern and western Colorado. Orlyn's contribution to the citizens and farmers of western Colorado is immeasurable. Orlyn you have served your community, State and Nation proudly and I wish you the best in your future endeavors.

TEACHERS' APPRECIATION DAY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, a proclamation signed by Acting-Governor Madeleine Bordallo on September 1, 2000, designated the month of September as "Teacher's Recognition Month." Three years ago, the Guam Legislature designated September 28th as "Teachers' Appreciation Day" in order to pay tribute and acknowledge the important role played by teachers on the island of Guam.

Intended to coincide with the birthday of the Chinese philosopher, Confucius, the month-long celebration was set aside to honor those who have dedicated themselves to the teaching profession. Regarded as one of the world's greatest philosophers and teachers, Confucius has been given credit for the development of public education. Hence, for the past three years, the Confucius Society of Guam, under the leadership of its president, Robert Kao, has worked towards raising the community's awareness regarding the importance of teachers to every community.

In this year's events, the island of Guam chose to celebrate the legacy of its teachers by honoring current teachers whose families include generations of classroom teachers among its members. Among those honored are Phylliss L. Leon Guerrero, Debra R. Mariano, and my very own daughter, Sophia R. Underwood.

Phylliss, who is from George Washington High School in Mangilao, has been a teacher for eight years who has four generations of teachers in her family. Her great-grandmother, Asuncion Martinez Cruz, taught at a school run by the Spaniards in the 1890's. Her grandmother, Vicenta S.A. Leon Guerrero, taught in schools established by the Americans from 1922 until 1962. She is the daughter of Virginia Artero Leon Guerrero, an elementary school teacher who taught for 14 years, and Wilfred Leon Guerrero, the former president of the University of Guam.

Debra, a four-year veteran, teaches at Agueda Johnston Middle School. Her grandfather, Cayetano A. Quinata, served as a teacher and principal at several elementary schools for a period of 39 years. Her grandfather, Alejo L.G. Quinata, taught under the Japanese during the occupation of Guam during World War II. Her mother, Mary Q. Mariano, taught at P.C. Lujan Elementary, Price Elementary and the Guam Community College.

My daughter, Sophia, has been teaching for more than five years. She also comes from a long and solid line of teachers. My grandfather, James H. Underwood, taught English at night school soon after the Americans took possession of Guam in 1898. He taught until 1905. My parents, John and Esther, as well as my wife, Lorraine, and I have been teachers.

Mr. Speaker, public officials, such as ourselves, do not officially gain the title "Honorable" until the constituents we serve grant us their mandate through our election. It was not until 1992 that the title was granted to me. However, I firmly believe that I, together with